



Delivering Extraordinary Value to Families

Steel Valley School District

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Edward Wehrer
Superintendent

December 20, 2018

Dear Steel Valley Community,

As 2018 draws to a close, please let me share with you some of the many positive things that happened at Steel Valley this calendar year.

- Apple, Inc., designated our Middle School as an Apple Distinguished School for 2018-2021. We applied unsuccessfully in 2017, but that did not deter us. We learned from the feedback on our first application, and we improved considerably for our second attempt. The Middle School principals and staff modeled the very same learning process that we want our students to follow. Failure is an option, but quitting is not!
- Our 2018 spring musical, *Mary Poppins*, was unbelievably good. If you were able to attend one or more of the shows, I know you agree. Our musical this year is *The Sound of Music*, and it promises to be another stellar event! Please save a date between February 21 - 24, 2019, to see our talented students flourish on the stage.
- After winning the WPIAL 2A championship last month, our football team concluded an unparalleled four-year stretch for any sport at Steel Valley in which we went 48 - 5, appeared in three consecutive WPIAL championship games, lifted two WPIAL championship trophies and won the PIAA 2A state championship in 2016.
- Our teachers and students are getting the job done in the classroom. For two consecutive years, our overall student achievement on standardized tests has improved. Each of our schools has a higher School Performance Profile (SPP) score in 2018 than in 2016. Not many districts in the Pittsburgh region can make the same claims.
- The District and the teachers' union, Steel Valley Education Association, agreed on a new five-year contract that will go into effect for the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Having that labor agreement in place until 2024 puts us in great position to continue to innovate and grow.

These are just a few of my highlights from 2018. The trajectory of our School District and our community is certainly upward, and I hope you have the same pride for the Ironmen that I do.

May the upcoming winter holiday break be a time of joy for you and your family!

Sincerely,

Edward Wehrer
Superintendent